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31

CUBA

Mr. Khrushchev said that Oct. 22, when President Kennedy delivered his speech announcing the embargo of arms shipments to Cuba, was a very black day. Except in time of war, he said, the freedom of the seas was recognized by all nations. If the United States Navy stopped and searched a Soviet vessel on the high seas, en route to the sovereign natio. of Cuba, he declared, it would be piracy. He said that since Soviet commercial vessels were not armed, the United States could stop and search one or maybe two, but that if we did, he would instruct his submarines to sink the American naval vessels.

He observed that, even though he had had many difficulties with General Eisenhower, he was certain that, if Eisenhower were President at this time, the problem of Cuba would have been handled in a much more mature manner. He stated he would hate to believe that President Kennedy's decision was due to the fact that we were having elections in the near future in the United States. In any event, he observed President Kennedy had embarked on a very, very dangerous policy, whether because of American histrionics or the President's youth.